

sports. Additionally, in the face of the most challenging of fiscal environments since the Great Depression, Sierra Sands Unified School District has maintained fiscal solvency throughout the entirety of her superintendency.

A relentless advocate for her students, I was honored to work recently with her to secure almost \$60 million in Federal defense funds to replace Murray Middle School and modernize Burroughs High School. Many of the parents of Sierra Sands students work at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake in state-of-the-art facilities and laboratories while their children attend class in 1940s and 1950s era buildings. Jody was instrumental in securing these funds and worked tirelessly with the Department of Defense through a competitive process to ensure her students can learn in modern buildings in today's digital society. Jody also was key to Sierra Sands securing \$7 million to build a state-of-the-art new Career Technical Education Building.

I have known Jody for years, and always sought her advice when I served in the California Assembly and now in the U.S. House of Representatives. Whether it is working to provide resources under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act so schools can better serve their disabled students, to critical reforms to the Impact Aid program to help ensure military-serving districts, like Sierra Sands, can continue to provide a world-class education to its students by cutting through bureaucratic red tape, to working on common-sense reforms to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that focus on students, Jody has tirelessly represented her students, school district, and our Ridgecrest community's interest while providing sound, objective, and to-the-point advice. When I visit Jody in Ridgecrest and speak to students, she is always quick to laud her staff, teachers and students' achievements and hard work that have made Sierra Sands one of the best school districts in Kern County and the State of California. Those are some of the reasons why she has been twice recognized by the Association of California School Administrators as Administrator of the Year and named this year as California's Superintendent of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our community, I would like to wish a happy retirement to Jody Rummer, who has devoted so much of her life to the success of the students and community she holds so close to her heart. I will miss working with Jody, but I know she will still be involved in education and our Ridgecrest community and I look forward to still be able to call on her for advice to strengthen the educational needs not only of Ridgecrest, our county, or our state, but of our country.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF WILLIAM A. THIEN FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Commander-in-Chief William A. Thien as he visits the State of Michigan and our Fifth Congressional District on Monday, May 12, 2014.

William A. "Bill" Thien was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on July 24, 2013, at the VFW's 114th National Convention, held in Louisville, KY.

Having served in the U.S. Navy from 1969–1974 as well as five years in the Indiana National Guard, Commander Thien holds decorations that include the Vietnam Service Medal with 3 stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Bar, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea), National Defense Service Medal and several from the National Guard.

He joined the VFW in 1971 at Post 3281 in New Albany, IN, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life Membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership positions including All American Post Commander, All State District Commander and All American State Commander. He has also held positions on numerous National committees, including Vice Chairman of Citizenship Education and Community Service and as Chairman of National Scholarship and Recognition.

Now retired, Commander Thien is a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Vietnam War Post 1, National Rifle Association, Patriot Guard Riders, Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 51 and VFW National Home.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Commander William Thien for his strong leadership and unwavering commitment to our country.

HONORING MICHAEL HEISLEY, SR.

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of a great Illinois businessman and philanthropist, Michael Heisley, Sr. who passed last Saturday at the age of 77. He was a classic American success story. In 1979, he mortgaged his house and took out a loan to buy a bankrupt industrial equipment company which he then turned around to become profitable. He purchased other Rust Belt manufacturing companies, including some in the 6th District of Illinois, and in the process turned his Heico Companies into one of the largest private companies in the Chicagoland area. He did not buy businesses to flip them, but to fix them and make them thriving enterprises once again.

Mr. Heisley not only kept manufacturing jobs in the United States, he also brought jobs back to the United States. He was able to move the NBA's Vancouver Grizzlies to Memphis, Tennessee. Like the companies he fixed, he left the Grizzlies in far better shape than he found them. Mr. Heisley was a philanthropist who donated to numerous charities including: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, St. Patrick's Catholic School in St. Charles, his alma mater Georgetown University, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, in honor of his brother Joseph who served and his best friend Rocky who died in Vietnam.

Mr. Heisley never lost track of his ties to St. Charles, IL his home of 35 years. He served on the St. Charles School Board and was a longtime parishioner at St. Patrick's in St.

Charles. He is survived by his wife of more than fifty years Agnes, five children and 12 grandchildren. Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in honoring Michael Heisley, his family, and his legacy of service and achievement.

RECOGNIZING TAYLOR COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPUTY ROBERT
LUNDY

HON. STEVE SOUTHERLAND II

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SOUTHERLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly heroic and remarkable man, Taylor County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Lundy. On February 5, 2014, Deputy Lundy was having his car serviced in Perry, Florida, when a crazed gunman drove his vehicle through the front of the store and opened fire.

Despite being off duty at the time and suffering a close range shotgun blast, Deputy Lundy courageously engaged the shooter without hesitation and took him down. As a result of Deputy Lundy's bold and selfless actions, innocent lives were saved that day and a gunman intent on causing mayhem was stopped before he could do any more harm.

After spending several weeks in a coma and being told he would need at least a year in the hospital, Deputy Lundy was able to return home in just over two months—a testament to his strength of spirit and an unyielding determination to be there for his wife and two young daughters.

While Deputy Lundy has a long road ahead in his recovery, his bravery and selfless sacrifice will not be forgotten. On behalf of the people of Florida's Second Congressional District, I express my sincere gratitude to Deputy Lundy and wish him a speedy and successful recovery.

HONORING PASTOR EUGENE
ROBERSON OF FIRST CORINTHIAN
MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH IN NORTH CHICAGO ON
HIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my friend, Pastor Eugene Roberson of First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church in North Chicago on his 20th Pastoral Anniversary. Over those 20 years, Pastor Roberson has been a dedicated community servant and a passionate religious leader, making him a prominent figure throughout the suburban Chicago district that I represent.

With his leadership and guidance, First Corinthian has grown tremendously over the past two decades, both physically and spiritually. Membership continues to rise annually, and in 2001, First Corinthian finished a brick and mortar addition and renovation, fulfilling part of Pastor Roberson's vision for the church.

His weekly sermons and Bible study courses offer insight and inspiration. His passion and enthusiasm engage all generations of